

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 1, 2012

The Hon. John A. Boehner, Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

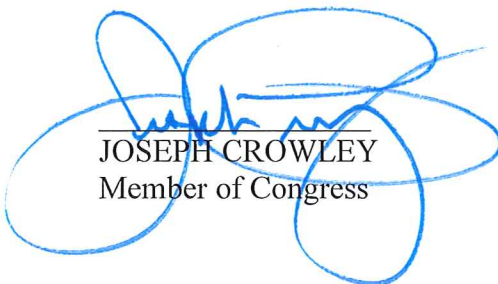
Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

As you know, Hurricane Sandy has ravaged our nation's most populous region and left mayhem in its wake. The storm claimed nearly 100 lives. Millions have lost their homes and millions more have been left without electricity, heat, and water. The region's roads, public transit systems, and infrastructure have suffered billions of dollars in damage. The Tri-State area (New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut) has been declared a *major disaster area*, emergency declarations were issued for a dozen states, and Sandy's effects were felt even as far as the Midwest. It is important that Congress act to ensure the families and communities affected by this disaster have the resources they need to recover as quickly as possible.

We are incredibly grateful for the swift, coordinated response by the President, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and state and local governments. However, the recovery from this terrible tragedy will prove to be a lengthy and costly task. We understand FEMA may have the resources it needs at this time, but as the full brunt of Hurricane Sandy is quantified, Congress must stand ready to provide the aid and assistance to the people and communities most devastated by this storm. Any effort to ensure assistance is provided to those in need during these very difficult times would, we hope, receive strong, bi-partisan support.

When tragedy strikes in America, our exceptional resolve, our goodwill, and our ability to set differences aside and work together are put on display. Congress must now do its part to help the nation recover. Thank you for your consideration and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



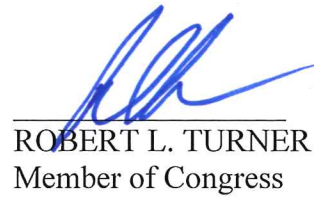
JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress



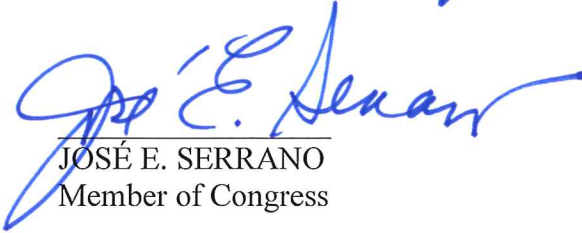
FRANK A. LoBIONDO
Member of Congress



NITA M. LOWEY
Member of Congress



ROBERT L. TURNER
Member of Congress



JOSÉ E. SERRANO
Member of Congress



MICHAEL G. GRIMM
Member of Congress



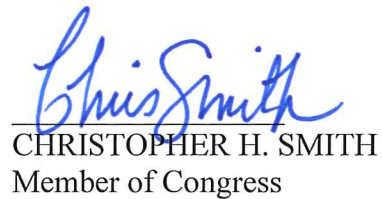
JAMES A. HIMES
Member of Congress



RICHARD L. HANNA
Member of Congress



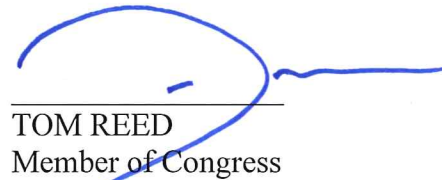
STEVE ISRAEL
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Member of Congress



TIMOTHY H. BISHOP
Member of Congress



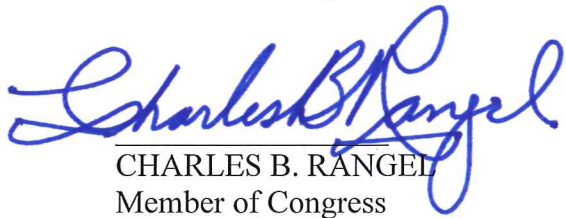
TOM REED
Member of Congress



ALBIO SIRES
Member of Congress



LEONARD LANCE
Member of Congress



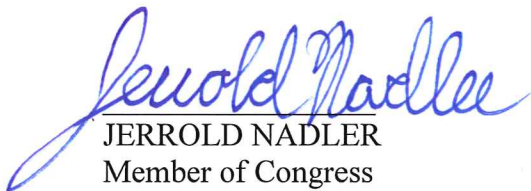
CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress



RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN
Member of Congress



BILL PASCRELL JR.
Member of Congress



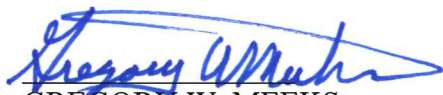
JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress



GARY L. ACKERMAN
Member of Congress



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress



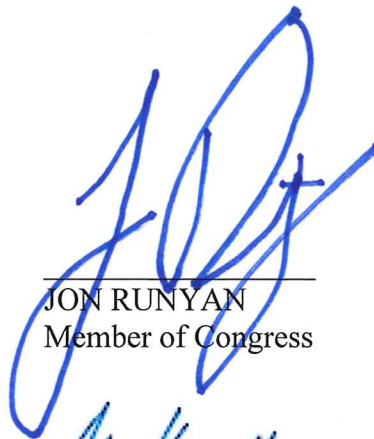
GREGORY W. MEEKS
Member of Congress



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress



YVETTE D. CLARKE
Member of Congress




JON RUNYAN
Member of Congress



NAN A. HAYWORTH
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON
Member of Congress



PETER T. KING
Member of Congress



CAROLYN MCCARTHY
Member of Congress



ROBERT E. ANDREWS
Member of Congress



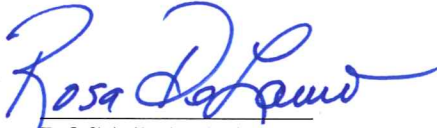
CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress



FRANK PALLONE, JR.
Member of Congress



RUSH D. HOLT
Member of Congress



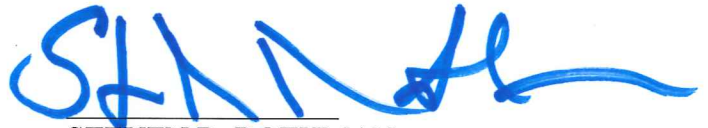
ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress



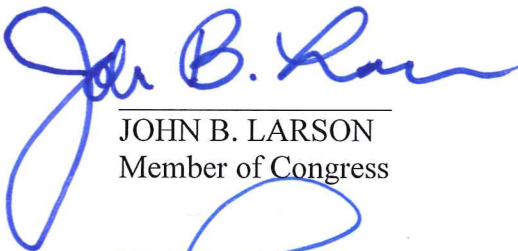
MAURICE D. HINCHEY
Member of Congress



PAUL TONKO
Member of Congress



STEVEN R. ROTHMAN
Member of Congress



JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress



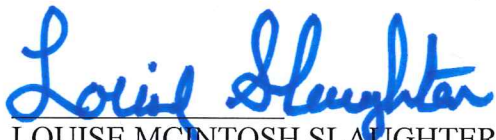
WILLIAM L. OWENS
Member of Congress



EDOLPHUS TOWNS
Member of Congress




BRIAN HIGGINS
Member of Congress



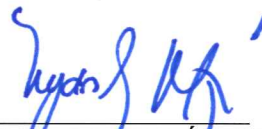
LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER
Member of Congress



KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
Member of Congress



NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ
Member of Congress